

The Great War—1148th Day

Anti-French Agitators Hoot Cardinal Mercier; Riot Follows
AMSTERDAM, Sept. 21.—According to the "Handelsblad," while Cardinal Mercier, the Primate of Belgium, was going to the cathedral at Antwerp in full Pontifical dress last Sunday, he was hooted and hissed by Flemish and anti-French agitators, who were in the crowd cheering him.

A riot resulted, and the police interfered with drawn swords. Later, as the Cardinal was leaving the cathedral, rioting again broke out. Stones were thrown, and sticks were used freely. Two of the agitators were seriously injured. Several of the rioters were arrested.

Haig Parries Counter Blows; Holds Ground

New Drive Near Ypres "Complete Success," General Declares

Says Foe Lost Heavily in Men

Berlin Admits Reverse; Reports British Used 120,000 in Attack

LONDON, Sept. 21.—In the face of determined counter attacks by the Germans, the British have not only consolidated all the gains made yesterday on the eight-mile front between the Ypres-Staden road and the Menin road, but have cleared up a number of strong positions beyond, completing the capture of their objectives in the whole sector under attack.

Haig reports that "unusually great" casualties were inflicted on the enemy in his futile reactions, in every case the advancing lines being destroyed by the concentrated fire of the British rifles and machine guns. The British losses are declared to have been light.

The number of German prisoners taken, it was officially announced to-night, has been increased to more than three thousand.

Berlin Admits Reverse

While the German official statement admits the retirement after fluctuating fighting, of von Arnim's forces for a distance of two-thirds of a mile, it asserts that the German troops "have successfully withstood" the attack, the success of which it seeks to minimize in every way. Emphasis is placed by the Berlin report on the terrific nature of the bombardment and barrage fire which covered the attacking troops. Nine British divisions and several Australian divisions, numbering probably 120,000 men, took part in the attack, Berlin states. Supported by armored cars and flame throwers, they advanced in close formation "behind a formidable wave of our most intense drumfire from guns and mine throwers of all calibers."

In all sectors of the battlefield except between Gheluvelt and Zonnebeke, the German statement declares, the British were thrown back into the "crater field of our fighting, sustaining the heaviest losses." Reinforcements brought up throughout the evening were not able to gain any further ground. The report adds that all the villages situated within the fighting zone are in the possession of the Germans.

Ground Almost Impassable

The importance of the British victory, which is declared by correspondents to be even greater than that at Messines, lies chiefly in the overcoming of the most difficult obstacles to an advance anywhere on the Western front.

The ground over which Haig's troops advanced is scarred with water-filled craters and mud holes, traversed by almost impassable swamps and rugged forests, and studded everywhere with German defenses—from the concrete "pill boxes," impregnable to anything but a high explosive, and sheltering crew after crew of machine gunners with their murderous weapons, to the steel parapets and concrete dugouts of the Germans.

When the British troops conquered Messines Ridge they paved the first section of the enemy's greatest defensive system in France. Yesterday they overthrew the second line of this system. Before them, with its foundation firmly planted on the northern end of the Zonnebeke Ridge and its shadow lying over Roulers, stands the final link in this chain, forged by the labor of three years.

On the French front Petain's troops repelled several spirited German assaults north of the Aisne and the Champagne, where the enemy rarely succeeded in reaching the opposing lines, so deadly was the fire of the French batteries.

Four German machines were brought down during the day by French fliers.

Australian Banner Flutters Over "Anzac"; British Gains Held

BRITISH FRONT IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM, Sept. 21.—During the night the British forces, with comparatively little opposition, consolidated and considerably improved the new line which they had won in their offensive against the Germans to the east of Ypres. Today, from the newly acquired enemy stronghold known as "Anzac," southwest of Zonnebeke, flutters the Australian banner, a symbol of the British victory which has marked British operations in the western theatre in the past year, not excluding that at Messines.

Southwest of Gheluvelt the Germans still are holding a position which the British desired, and to-day at 9:30 o'clock Field Marshal Haig began a local attack here.

Held New Positions

This morning found the British still holding strongly the important positions which they had wrested from the Germans. The consolidating process effected in the night was facilitated by the British artillery, its effective work preventing the Germans from bringing up their reserves.

The importance of the new ground won lies in the fact that it was high ground, taking in the ridge on which the Anzac flag now flies and extending southward, and constituting the key to the German defenses here. Over this the onrushing British swept yesterday with irresistible force.

Aside from the local operations southwest of Gheluvelt, the situation to-day south of the Anzac stronghold was virtually unchanged. The Germans shelled the left of this front heavily during the night and showed considerable activity also immediately to the north.

Repulse Counter Attacks

Northeast of St. Julien the Germans formed last evening for a counter attack, but the British turned a heavy rifle and machine-gun fire into the enemy ranks and dispersed them with heavy losses.

The fighting yesterday was very bitter in many places. The enemy fought determinedly to hold their positions and when once forced from the lines they were defending continued to re-

turn to the attack in an endeavor to oust the British. During the day no less than six counter attacks were delivered on the front north of the Anzac, but in each instance the assaulting troops were hurled back. Throughout this time the British continued to improve their line, reaching out here and there to occupy positions which give them a stronger hold.

In the day's success many parts of the enemy were represented. Australia, South Africa, England, Scotland—all gave of their magnificent troops, who pushed out across marshlands and battled their way through concrete machine-gun emplacements and redoubts.

The whole operation was a remarkable demonstration of what organization, backed with plenty of big guns, can accomplish.

Over Difficult Ground

The crucial sector may be said to be that of the Anzac, which lies about a mile southwest of Zonnebeke. Southwest of Anzac is Nun's Wood, and just east of this is the famous forest known as Polygon Wood. When the British in August fought their way forward to Polygon Wood they found Nun's Wood so flooded that they were forced to go around it, and the ground here still presents great difficulties to the movement of troops because of its swampy condition. Nun's Wood merges into Glencorse Wood on the south, and a little further down the Ypres-Menin highway is Inverness Copse, of undying fame. Behind Glencorse Wood and Inverness is an open stretch of solid ground of some 400 yards, and here on the Fitts-Clerence farm the Germans had built great steel and concrete redoubts, in which the attackers suffered heavily. They were driven back to their lines without gains, according to the official statement issued at Rome to-night.

The Italians have been conducting successful mining operations on this front for the last week, and on Wednesday completely destroyed the Austrian labor, by an explosion of a counter mine.

Some hint of the enormous difficulties confronting the troops of California in the rugged Alpine sectors of the battle front is conveyed in the official account of a valiant assault by Italian forces at Cima Sief, in the upper Cordoluna Valley. Here, where the peaks of the Dolomites cleave the sky, picked mountain troops advanced in open order against the enemy's defenses far above them.

In furious combats they won the upper hand over the Austrians and penetrated the positions, but the victory could not be sustained. Under the violent bombardment of the enemy's big guns the Italians found it impossible to reconstruct the shattered positions of the enemy or to rear new shelters on the rocky, exposed ground. They finally withdrew to their original lines.

China to Send Trial Division to France

Premier Favors Dispatch of 300,000 Troops if Canton Government Assents

PEKING (Monday), Sept. 17.—(Delayed.) The president and the cabinet have agreed to the plan of sending a trial division of 24,600 Chinese soldiers to France if money, equipment and shipping are available. The Entente Allies have approved the proposition and France is eager to receive the contingent.

The Chinese probably could reach France by January 1. An abundant number of fairly trained soldiers is immediately available for the expedition. The Premier is in favor of sending 300,000 men, and the provincial authorities are heartily in support of the plan in the event that the Canton provisional government gives its approval of the war with Germany.

The Chinese soldiers probably will be used as a second line force in France until they are better trained in the latest methods of warfare. President Feng Kwei-chang has cabled congratulations to President Poincaré on the French success at Verdun. The Chinese newspapers also are enthusiastically praising France and urging China to send troops to aid her.

A dispatch received from Peking yesterday, under the date of September 15, said that the Chinese cabinet was willing to send 300,000 soldiers to France in compliance with the French request. The advice added that an appeal had been made to the United States for financial aid to equip the Chinese troops.

A Tokio dispatch, dated September 16, and received here yesterday, said that the Chinese government had rounded Japan on the proposed dispatch of Chinese troops to Europe, and that Japan probably would offer no opposition to the plan.

35 German Divisions Fight in Flanders

Approximately 420,000 Men Used in Effort to Stem Recent Allied Drive

GRAND HEADQUARTERS OF THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Sept. 21.—Thirty-five German divisions have been engaged in the fighting in Flanders during the course of the six weeks from July 18 to August 20, eight of which are still in the front line. Nineteen of the German divisions have been withdrawn and are now undergoing reformation in rear camps, the eight being assigned to defend quiet sectors along the fighting front and elsewhere.

The average duration of the occupation of front trenches by German divisions before their withdrawal is only eight days, in which time the casualties become so heavy that their retirement is compulsory. During a similar period of the Somme battle, a year ago, thirty-four German divisions were engaged, twenty-two of which were withdrawn as a consequence of casualties after twelve days' fighting. During the Verdun fighting, which began on August 20, ten German divisions, including four reserve divisions, were withdrawn after fighting from a minimum of two days to a maximum of four days. Eight of these divisions were regarded as exhausted. Six new divisions, which replaced them, now occupy the line.

Asks Check on Malvy French Deputy Seeks Truth of Bribe Charges

PARIS, Sept. 21.—Deputy Georges Bonnet has written to Jules Steeg, the Minister of the Interior, asking him to state if it is true, "as alleged," that his predecessor, Louis J. Malvy, paid a monthly subvention of 8,000 francs (\$1,600) out of the secret fund of the ministry to the "Bonnet Rouge."

M. Malvy resigned as Minister of the Interior on August 31, giving as a reason the press attacks upon him resulting from indirect charges that he had been unduly tolerant to certain elements in the population charged with an anti-patriotic propaganda. Included in this category were persons connected with the "Bonnet Rouge," a newspaper which conducted a pacifist campaign, and whose editor, Almercyda, committed suicide in jail after the suppression of his newspaper.

Nine Die in Irish Explosion

LONDON, Sept. 21.—An explosion has occurred in a munitions factory in Ireland, it was announced officially to-day by the British War Office. Nine persons were killed.

Italians Shatter Austrian Attack In the Trentino

Cadorna's Troops Drive Back Heavy Force Northwest of Trent

Destroy Foe's Tunnels Counter Mine Wrecks Teuton Works—Alpine Troops Are Active

LONDON, Sept. 21.—The Austrians made a futile attempt yesterday to open an attack in the Trentino, where the Austrian Emperor was reported to have made a visit of inspection last week. Emerging from the head of the Gröno Valley, northwest of Trent, the enemy forces in large numbers advanced against the Italian positions. After a brisk struggle, in which the attackers suffered heavily, they were driven back to their lines without gains, according to the official statement issued at Rome to-night.

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Germany Lacks Goods for Clothes

Inventors Now Seeking Substitutes for Woolen and Cotton Fabrics

Germany is fast becoming hard up for wearing-apparel, and inventors have succeeded in finding an effective substitute for woolen and cotton fabrics, say the London "Daily Mail." The new material has been tested and found to be both wearable and washable. The drawback at present is that this "paper-cloth" is rather stiff, but by special treatment experts hope to produce a stuff sufficiently fine and soft to be used even for underwear. The Berlin "Daily Paper" (Tageblatt) devotes the best part of a column to this important revolution in clothes and workmen's clothing. It says that the new goods, which they got so rough we just slowed down and laid under the engine for a spell until they decided to quit picking on us.

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Shipbuilding in Japan

The shipbuilding industry in Japan is at the very high water mark of prosperity. On a site that one year ago was a barren waterfront in the suburbs of Yokohama is now the vast Asano Shipyard, from which, in the middle of last month, an 11,000-ton hull was launched. The creation of the Asano works and the building of its first steel vessel are record breaking performances. Mr. Asano has secured another yard within the corporate limits of Yokohama.

Shipyards at Kobe, Osaka, Nagasaki, and other ports are all working night and day. The "Far East" tells a story of an Osaka firm in the coal and cement business which bought a small steamship for the transport of its own products. The firm sold the vessel at 200 per cent profit, and having succeeded in this temptation to make "quick money" found itself without transport facilities, excepting the precarious accommodation afforded by the regular companies, whose space is booked long ahead. The company has decided to go into the shipbuilding business, and has bought land on Osaka Bay.

The total number of steamers in Japan on July 1 was 2,110, with a combined tonnage of 1,707,325 tons.

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Aeros Bombard Americans Operating French Trains

Member of United States Regiment of Picked Men Finds Military Railroad Harder Than Any Job He Ever Had at Home

By Heywood Brown
(Accorded to the Pershing Army in France for The New York Tribune and Syndicate)
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THE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY ARMY IN FRANCE, Sept. 20.—The freight car was unmistakably French, for a sign on the side said: "Hommes, 36; chevaux en long, 8." Of course, any Frenchman immediately would understand the caption to mean that the horses must be put in lengthwise and not folded. No restrictions are mentioned as to the method of packing the "hommes."

But, a tall stringy man, who gazed out of the car meditatively, working on his eating tobacco, looked as if he would not know what a "cheval" was unless it bit him. He spoke, and the impression was confirmed that he was no Frenchman, for he said:

"I guess I've kicked a hobo off the train for every telegraph pole, back on the old Rock Island; but this is the toughest railroad job I've struck yet."

The brakeman was a member of the American Regiment of Railroad Engineers, now operating a military road. He admitted that he found airplanes more annoying than tramps and that, while washouts and spreading rails were old stories to him, he did get a bit of a thrill the first time he found the tracks torn up by shell fire. Still, he declared that the pestkiest nuisance was airplanes.

Bombed by Aeroplane

"One night," he said, "there was one of those flying machines just followed along with us, and every time we fired the engine and the sparks flew up the Dutchmen in the flying machine would drop a bomb or shoot at us with a machine gun. They didn't hit us, but they got so rough we just slowed down and laid under the engine for a spell until they decided to quit picking on us."

This regiment of railroad operatives is the huskiest I have ever seen. Itment of the yard master from Texas.

was carefully selected from men from American railways. Of themen selected only one-seventh were taken. One company boasts 125 6-footers, and all are two-fisted fighters. Its discipline, of course, is not that of an infantry regiment. I watched an animated discussion between a captain and some of his men about where certain material should be placed when they first moved into camp.

"You've got the wrong dope about that, Bill," said a private to his captain earnestly. The officer looked at him severely. "I've told you before about this discipline business, Harry," he said. "Any time you want to kick about my orders you call me mister." It is hard for a railroad man to realize that a couple of silver bars have changed a yard master to a United States captain.

Believes in Number 13

The regiment sets great store by the number 13. It was put into service Friday, the 13th, and left its base in two sections of thirteen cars each. The locomotive's headlight numbers totalled thirteen and the 13th of the month found the regiment arriving at its European port of entry. The 13th of the next month found the regiment starting for its first French base, and when camp was reached the French interpreter and his companions were awaiting them.

"How many are you?" asked the colonel. "I have twelve companions with me," answered the interpreter. The regiment will never forget the first night at its French base. It arrived at midnight, but crowds thronged the darkened streets and gave the big Americans an enthusiastic greeting, although it was forbidden to talk above undertones. Since they could not hurry for the soldiers, the villagers hugged them, and from black windows roses were pelted on shadowy figures that tramped up the street to the low rumble of a muffled band.

At the time of our visit the American crew were still carrying French crews with them, but in a day or two they expected to have entire charge of the railroad in every detail. They marvel at the excellence of this road, which has carried countless tons of military supplies and which is strictly a mushroom war railroad. "As good as any main line in the United States," was the comment of the yard master from Texas.

Official Statements

West BRITISH

LONDON, Sept. 21 (DAY).—More detailed accounts of yesterday's battle confirm the completeness of our success. During the evening local attacks delivered by us in the neighborhood of Tower Hamlets and north-east of Langemarck cleared up a number of strong points and completed the capture of our objectives in these localities.

It is now established that in the many counter attacks delivered by considerable forces of the enemy during the afternoon and evening his casualties were unusually great. The clear light of the latter part of the day enabled our troops to obtain warning of impending attacks, and in every case the advancing lines of German infantry were destroyed by the concentrated fire from our rifles and machine guns.

The obituary which the enemy constantly repeated his attacks only added to his losses, without recovering for him any of the valuable ground which he had won. Exhausted by his previous efforts, the enemy made no counter attacks during the night, and our troops were able to consolidate the positions undisturbed.

Our own losses in the battle are light. In the course of the night our machine attack we drove off the first day of the third battle of Flanders.

The fire effect of the last few days presented a powerful effort on the part of the English, and the concentration of fighting means employed by the enemy on September 20 on a front of twelve infantry (seven and one-half miles) reached the limit of its intensity at Hochtemple.

Behind a formidable wave of the most intense drumfire from guns and mine throwers of all calibers there advanced to attack in close formation the morning between Langemarck and Hollebeke at least nine British divisions, including several Australian divisions, which were often supported by armored cars and flame-throwers.

After fluctuating fighting as a result of the attack, the enemy was able to advance a few kilometers deep into our defense zone, and at Pasmehende and Gheluvelt the enemy at times pressed further forward. West of Pasmehende he was pressed back again by our counter attack. North of the Menin-Ypres road a portion of terrain remained in his hands.

In all the other sectors of the battlefield the English, sustaining the heaviest losses, were thrown back into the crater field of our fighting zone by the stubborn and heroic fighting of our troops, which lasted until late in the afternoon. The enemy's numbers were newly brought up into the fire throughout the evening were not able to gain any further ground. The villages situated within the fighting zone are all in our possession.

So far this morning the English have not resumed the battle. As in the former battles in Flanders, our leaders and troops reached the highest point of efficiency.

FRENCH

PARIS, Sept. 21 (DAY).—We easily repulsed enemy surprise attacks north of Vaux-laillon, in the sector of Cerny, and on the Verdun front, near Bethincourt and Lamorville.

In the Champagne a German attack on the enemy was able to reach our lines. The Germans suffered serious losses.

(NIGHT).—An enemy attack against one of our small posts to the north of Joy ended in failure.

Aviation.—During Wednesday and Thursday two German warplanes were shot down in the daylight, and two others, seriously damaged, were forced to land during the night.

ITALIAN FRONT

ROME, Sept. 21.—At the head of the Gröno Valley (northwest of Trent) the enemy at dawn yesterday made an attack in force on one of our small advanced posts. A brisk struggle resulted, the enemy being driven back, leaving numerous losses. On the Col Brion (northwest of Trent) on Wednesday, by a timely explosion of a counter mine, we destroyed the enemy's tunnel works.

In the upper Cordoluna Valley (Dolomites) yesterday one of our parties in a splendid attack parried and passed beyond the enemy defenses at Cima Sief. Subsequently, owing to the absolute impossibility of creating shelters under a most violent enemy bombardment on the rocky, exposed ground, our men withdrew to their position of departure.

GREECE WILL REBUILD SALONICA

OTTAWA, Sept. 21.—Salonica, half destroyed by fire on August 18, when 80,000 persons were made homeless, is to be rebuilt by the government of Greece, which has engaged Thomas Mawson, the noted English town planner, it was learned to-day. Noulas Chachoun, consulting engineer of the city, received a cablegram from Mawson asking his collaboration in the work.

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DASHWOOD

The German lines. In the region of Nuremberg an enemy machine was driven down and the occupants were captured. Southeast of Kovel our airmen dropped bombs on the enemy camps.

Five German Planes Downed by Russians

General Fighting Subsides While Airmen Make Reconnaissance

LONDON, Sept. 21.—Aside from local engagements on the Rumanian front there was no fighting activity to-day in the western theatre of the war, although the airmen of both sides were busy making reconnaissance.

On the Rumanian front, Petragrai reports, Russian fliers downed five German machines, four within the enemy's lines. Southeast of Kovel German concentration camps were exposed to a heavy bombardment from the air.

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"My Four Years In Germany"
 by JAMES W. GERARD

The 43d and final installment of James W. Gerard's narrative has just been published by "The Philadelphia Public Ledger." It was a story which progressively deepened the impression of Germany's guilt and America's danger as the daily chapter was spread before the country.

Sunday's Tribune will carry a résumé of this stirring contribution to the literature of diplomacy—to the history of the invention of the World War and to current study in German psychology.

An article giving the main features of Gerard's book through to his stirring conclusion, which read:

"Germany is possessed yet of great military power. . . . Fortunately, America bars the way—America led by a fighting President who will allow no compromise with brutal autocracy."

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